

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed on August 29, 2007. Claims 1-26 and 28 are pending in the application. Of these, Claims 20-22 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claims 1-15 are allowed. Claims 16-19, 23-26, and 28 have been examined and stand rejected. Reconsideration of Claims 16-19, 23-26, and 28 is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claims 16-19 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In response thereto, Claim 16 has been amended.

Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claim 23, 24, and 28 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 23, 24, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reid in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,548,054 (Worley et al.).

In response thereto, Claim 23 has been amended. As amended, Claim 23 recites a purifier vessel to treat untreated water containing a pack bed filled with beads made from a polymer selected from at least one of a halogenated polystyrene hydantoin, or halogenated hydantoinyl siloxane. Claim 23 has also been amended to recite the dwell chamber comprises a water outlet at an elevation positioned below the water inlet of the purifier vessel.

U.S. Patent No. 6,274,038 (Reid) teaches a filter cartridge design to be "connected to a water supply at the influent portion 18 of the influent passage and to a downstream device at an effluent portion 16 of the effluent passage." (See Col. 2, line 66-Col. 3, line 2.) When one considers this passage in combination with the general configuration of the filter cartridge disclosed, it is apparent that the filter cartridge of Reid is designed to work in conjunction with a

pressurized water supply so as to provide the necessarily present differential in pressure between the influent portion 18 and the effluent portion 16. In particular, Reid discloses a filter cartridge where the effluent portion 16 is not located below the influent portion 18, thereby requiring the differential in pressure discussed above to support flow of water out of the filter cartridge.

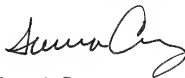
Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 23, 24, and 28 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}



Laura A. Cruz
Registration No. 46,649
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1725

LXC:pwv